DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 262 430 CS 209 391

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TITLE Poetry: A Selective Bibliography of Poetry Books for Institution Libraries.
INSTITUTION Florida State Library, Tallahassee.
PUB DATE 84
NOTE 18p.
PUB TYPE Reference Materials - Bibliographies (131)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Anthologies; Bibliographies; Blacks; *Institutional Libraries; *Library Collections; Library Materials; *Poetry; Poets; Prison Libraries; World Literature

ABSTRACT

Intended to help the staff of institutional libraries develop or expand their collections of poetry materials, this bibliography offers lists of poetry works covering a broad range of poets, styles, and time periods. The first part of the bibliography provides a list of criteria used for selecting the titles cited, a list of sources used for recommendations, information for ordering titles, and sources for other titles. The remainder of the bibliography presents the citations, which are divided into the following categories: (1) standard comprehensive anthologies, (2) poetry collections, (3) poetry collections by black poets, (4) poetry collections from other languages or countries, and (5) poetry by individual contemporary poets. (HTH)

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POETRY

A SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF POETRY BOOKS
FOR INSTITUTION LIBRARIES

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PURPOSE

This bibliography was compiled to assist you in developing or expanding your library's poetry collection. Reading and writing poetry are important activities with many institution residents. Most librarians, however, cannot always find enough poetry in the right subjects and right reading levels to meet the demand. This listing should serve as a starting point in the collection development process.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Several points were considered in selecting the titles represented in this bibliography; these are the main ones:

1. Books in attractive formats or editions.
2. Poetry that is especially popular, lighter, non-scholarly and enjoyable for the novice to read.
3. Young adult and adult subjects with strong popular appeal, especially Black interest, love, oriental poetry, and personal feelings.
4. Poetry that is generally written at a lower reading level.
5. Titles that appeared in paperback as well as hardback editions.
6. Listing in the 1983/84 edition of Books In Print. (Many excellent titles are no longer in print and some of them are mentioned as supplemental titles, without full citations.)

SOURCES USED FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Public Library Catalog. H.W. Wilson Co., 7th ed., 1978 and annual supplements.
2. Books for the Teenage. New York Public Library, annual list (recent issues).
3. Carlsen, G. Robert. Books and the Teenage Reader: a Guide for Teachers, Librarians, and Parents. Harper, 1980. 2nd Rev. ed.
4. English Journal. National Council of Teachers of English. Monthly periodical.
5. Booklist. American Library Association. (Bimonthly).
6. Examination of books in the State Library's poetry collection. Many titles were eliminated on the basis of their scholarly content, formidible appearance, or length.
7. Stanford, Barbara Dodds and Karima Amin. Black Literature for High School Students. National Council of Teachers of English, 1978.
8. Best books lists produced by the American Library Association and Library Journal.
9. Austin, Mary C. and Esther C. Jenkins. Promoting World Understanding Through Literature, K-8. Libraries Unlimited, 1983.
10. Your Reading - A Booklist for Junior High and Middle School Students. New edition. National Council of Teachers of English, 1983.

11. Recommendations from individual librarians, poets, and teachers.

HOW TO ORDER

1. Many of these titles will be available from standard library vendors like Baker & Taylor, Brodart, and Bookazine. They are also available directly from their publishers - and some of the less well-known titles should probably be ordered that way. All titles with full citations were listed in the 1983/84 edition of Books in Print.

2. It is disappointing to note that the three major prebound paperback book companies offer very few poetry titles. The Bound-to-Stay-Bound Co. offers a larger number of titles in their reinforced library binding for hardback books. Where these bindings are available, it is noted with the following code:

   A - Bound-to-Stay-Bound (hardback)
   West Morton Road
   Jacksonville, IL 62650

   B - Demco Bound (paperbacks)
   Box 7488
   Madison, WI 53707

   C - EconoClad (paperbacks)
   Post Office Box 1777
   Topeka, KS 66601

   D - PermaBound (paperbacks)
   Hertzberg New Method, Inc.
   Vandalia Road
   Jacksonvile, IL 62650

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

The State Library has a large collection of poetry titles representing many poets and subjects. Feel free to use this source to supplement your own collection.

SOURCES OF OTHER TITLES

American Prisoners and Ex-prisoners: their writings. H. Bruce Franklin. Lawrence Hill & Co., 1982.

Public Library Catalog. 8th edition. H.W. Wilson, 1984 and annual supplements.

Senior High School Library Catalog. 12th edition. H.W. Wilson, 1982 and annual supplements.

Booklist and Library Journal both review poetry in every issue.

STANDARD COMPREHENSIVE COLLECTIONS

These are some standard poetry anthologies covering a broad range of poets, styles, and time periods. Choose several to back up your more popular materials.

American Folk Poetry: an Anthology. Edited by Duncan Emrich. Little, 1974, $24.95.

Contains games, songs, folk dance calls, and old American hymns and carols.

Best Loved Poems of the American People. Edited by Hazel Felleman. Doubleday, 1936, $12.95.

Mentor Book of Major American Poets. Edited by Oscar Williams et al. NAL, paperback $3.95. B

Selections from the works of Taylor, Emerson, Longfellow, Poe, Whitman, Dickinson and others.

Mentor Book of Major British Poets. Edited by Oscar Williams. NAL, paperback $4.50. D

Includes works by Blake, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Keats, Browning, Thomas and others.

The New Oxford Book of American Verse. Edited by Richard Ellmann. Oxford University Press, 1976, $27.50.

A standard collection of American poetry from Anne Bradstreet, who died in 1672, to Imamu Amiri Baraka (LeRoy Jones), who was born in 1934.

Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry. Edited by Richard Ellmann. Norton, 1973, $28.95 (paperback $21.95).

The Oxford Book of American Light Verse. Edited by William Harmon. Oxford University Press, 1979, $17.95.

The Penguin Book of Light Verse. Edited by Gavin Ewart. Penguin, 1982, paperback $5.95.

Treasury of Great Poems. Edited by Louis Untermeyer, 2 volumes. Vol. 1 - Chaucer to Burns - paperback $5.95. Vol 2 - Wordsworth to Dylan Thomas - paperback $5.95. Simon, 1964.

POETRY COLLECTIONS

Anthologies will compose the bulk of your collection since they are the best way of representing a range of poets with a limited budget. These should form a base for the most popular subjects and topics.

America Forever New: a Book of Poems. Edited by Sara and John E. Brewton. Harper 1968, $10.95. A

A fine collection of poems about America and Americans that provides an excellent selection of considerable depth and diversity.

American Indian Poetry: An Anthology of Songs and Chants. Edited by George W. Cronyn. Liveright, 1970, paperback $5.95.

Baker's Pocket Treasury of Religious Verse. Compiled by Donald T. Kauffmann. Baker Books, 1980, paperback $4.95.

Best Loved Religious Poems. Compiled by James G. Lawson. Revell, 1981, $9.95.

Book of Love Poetry. Edited by John Stallworthy. Oxford University Press, 1974, $19.95.

Breaking Silence, an Anthology of Contemporary Asian-American Poets. Edited by Joseph Bruchac. Greenfield Review Press (R.D. 1, Box 80, Greenfield Center, NY 12833), 1984, $9.95.

A wide ranging selection that should be of interest to both the general reader of poetry and students of Asian-American culture.

Bring Me All of Your Dreams. Edited by Nancy Larrick. M. Evans 1980, $7.95. A

Poems about dreams and dreamers including everything from humor to fantasy to tragedy.

Carriers of the Dream Wheel. Edited by Duane Niatum. Harper, 1981, paperback $9.95.

Contemporary Native American poetry.

A Christmas Feast: Poems, Sayings, Greetings and Wishes. Edited by Edna Barth. Houghton, 1979, $9.95.

Contemporary American Poets. Edited by Mark Strand. NAL 1971, paperback, $3.50. D

A comprehensive anthology of American poetry since 1940 with a balanced selection by 92 leading poets.

Crazy To Be Alive In Such a Strange World: Poems About People. Selected by Nancy Larrick. M. Evans, 1977, $7.95.

Humorous and ironic, these poems deal with people of varied backgrounds and ages.

Divided Light: Father and Son Poems: A Twentieth Century Anthology. Edited by Jason Shinder. Sheep Meadow Press (distributed by Persea), 1984, paperback $10.95.

With these 140 well-chosen selections Shinder has sketched broad outlines and fine shadings in the complex dual portraits of male parents and offspring.

Do Not Go Gentle: Poetry and Prose From Behind the Walls. Edited by Michael Hogan. Blue Moon Press, 1977, $15. (paperback $4.95).

A strong collection of writing from America's prisons.

Don't Forget to Fly. Edited by Paul B. Janeczko. Bradbury, 1981, $10.95.

Seventy modern poets share their visions of marriage, cats, cemetaries, suidide, love, insomnia and swimming - and each poem reveals the hopes and fears that surround the subject.

Edgeworth, Mark. Beyond the Stars, Beyond the heavens: A Book of Lines, Sayings and Verses of Love. Libra, 1980, $5.95.

The Faber Book of Nonsense Verse: With a Sprinkling of Nonsense Prose. Edited by Geoffrey Grigson. Faber, 1979, $15.95 (paperback, 1982 $7.95).

Wit and whimsey are well represented in this lively collection

Faber Book of Love poems. Edited by Geoffrey Grigson. Faber, 1983, paperback $6.95.

A Galaxy of Verse. Edited by Louis Untermeyer. M. Evans, 1978, $7.95.

The Gambit Book of Love Poems. Edited by Geoffrey Grigson. Gambit, 1975, $10.95.

A Green Place: Modern Poems. Compiled by William Jay Smith. Delacorte, 1982, $16.95. A

A collection of twentieth century poetry from America, Africa, Australia, France, Germany and Hungary with wide-ranging subjects.

I Never Told Anyone. Edited by Ellen Bass and Louise Thornton. Harper, 1983, $17.95 (paperback $6.95).

A powerful collection of poems and prose recollections by women who were sexually abused as children or adolescents.

Life Hungers to Abound - Poems of the Family. Edited by Helen Plotz. Morrow/Greenwillow, 1978, $11.95. A

Light Year '84. Bits Press (Case Western Reserve University), 1983, $12.95.

Light Year is an annual of light verse and funny poems.

Love is Like the Lion's Tooth: an Anthology of Love Poems. Edited by Frances McCullough. Harper, 1984, $12.

A collection of 76 poems about the various stages and effects of love.

No More Masks! An Anthology of Poems By Women. Edited by Florence Howe and Ellen Bass. Doubleday, 1973, paperback $5.95.

Poems by twentieth century women.

O Frabjous Day! Poetry For Holidays and Special Occasions. Edited by Myra Cohn Livingston. Atheneum, 1977, $9.95. A

Over a hundred poems of celebration have been collected in this book.

Overheard in a Bubble Chamber. Compiled by Lillian Morrison. Lothrop, 1981, $10.25.

A collection of science poems.

Penguin Book of Love Poetry. Penguin, 1976, paperback $4.95.

The Penguin Book of Women Poets. Edited by Carol Cosman et al. Viking, 1979, $14.95 (paperback Penguin, $5.95).

This collection spans 3,500 years and 40 literary traditions, from ancient Egypt to modern America.

Pictures That Storm Inside My Head. Edited by Richard Peck. Avon, 1976, paperback $1.95 B

Poetry about inner feelings, worries and stresses. Another popular Peck anthology is Sounds and Silences.

Poems That Live Forever. Edited by Hazel Felleman. Doubleday, 1965, $12.95.

Poems to Read Aloud. Edited by Edward Hodnett. Norton, no date set, enlarged 3rd revised edition, $15.00.

The Poetry Anthology, 1912 - 1977; Sixty-Five Years of America's Most Distinguished Verse Magazine. Edited by Daryl Hine and Joseph Parisi. Houghton, 1978, $20 (paperback $10.95).

Here is great reading and great poetry - the best in the English language in the past 65 years.

Poetspeak: In Their Work, About Their Work. Selected by Paul B. Janeczko. Bradbury, 1983, $12.95.

A good job of weaving well known poets like Wilbur, Eberhart, Dickey and Giovanni in with lesser-known but good contemporary artists.

A Present of Laughter: Wit and Nonsense In Pictures and Verse. Edited by Bryan Holme. Viking, 1982, $14.95.

For those in need of the ridiculous rhyme and illogical illustration, this bountiful compilation should prove eminently serviceable.

The Random House Book of Poetry For Children. Selected by Jack Prelutsky. Random, 1983, $13.95.

A generous collection with a distinctly upbeat tone, this gives a taste of the best poets writing for children over the last several decades.

Reflections on a Gift of Watermelon Pickle..and Other Modern Verse. Compiled by Stephen Dunning et. al. Lothrop, 1966, $10.95.

Contemporary and controversial language, varied and pithy subject matter, photographs reflect the spirit of the poetry.

The Remembered Earth: an Anthology of Contemporary Native American Literature. Edited by Geary Hobson. University of New Mexico Press, 1981, $17.50 (paperback, $9.95).

Sleeping on the Wing: An Anthology of Modern Poetry With Essays on Reading and Writing. Edited by Kenneth Koch and Kate Farrell. Random, 1981, $14.95 (paperback $4.95).

Poems by 23 poets are included in this collection, as are essays explaining the poetry.

Some Haystacks Don't Even Have Any Needle and Other Complete Modern Poems. Compiled by Stephen Dunning et al. Lothrop, 1969, $12.50.

The old themes of love, loneliness, anger and compassion are set in a context that ranges from wild to tender.

Songs from the Earth on Turtle's Back, Contemporary American Indian Poetry. Edited by Joseph Bruchac. Greenfield Review Press, 1983. $9.95

52 Native American poets share their writings from the last two decades.

The Voice That is Great Within Us. Edited by Hayden Carruth. Bantam, 1970, paperback $4.50.

Includes seldom anthologized poems by major American poets of the modern period.

Why Am I Grown So Cold? Poems of the Unknowable. Selected by Myra Cohn Livingston. Atheneum, 1982, $13.95. A

Some 150 poems give a wide array of verse dealing with the supernatural.

Zero Makes Me Hungry: A Collection of Poems for Today. Edited by Edward Lueders and Primus St. John. Lothrop, 1976, $11.95. A

These 114 poems arranged in ten sections on modern technology, creativity, death, sports, animals, love, and other aspects of daily living, reflect a contemporary tone and ethnic diversity.

BLACK POETRY COLLECTIONS

Black poetry should form a sizable portion of your collection to reflect the high quality of writing in this area and the large numbers of Black residents in your institution. Most librarians indicate that their Black patrons are the heaviest users of poetry.

Afro-American Literature: Poetry. Edited by William Adams et al. Houghton, 1970, paperback $6.08.

The emphasis is on modern literature although a few early writers are included. Three other volumes in the series are subtitled by genre: Fiction, Drama and Nonfiction.

Black American Literature: Essays, Poetry, Fiction, Drama. Edited by Darwin T. Turner. Merrill, 1970, paperback text edition $14.95.

A scholarly work suitable for college and advanced high school students.

The Black Poets. Edited by Dudley Randall. Bantam, 1971, paperback $3.50. D

An excellent selection of works by contemporary poets and also an historical survey of both literary and folk poetry.

Black Sister: Poetry by Black American Women, 1746-1980. Edited by Erlene Stetson. Indiana University, 1981, $22.50 (paperback $9.95).

Includes more than 200 poems by nearly 60 poets, spanning over two centuries.

Black Voices: An Anthology of Afro-American Literature. Edited by Abraham Chapman. NAL, 1968, paperback $4.95. B,C,D

This 700-page paperback is probably the best buy among general anthologies. It covers the best known writers of the past plus examples from contemporary writers. Also see the sequel New Black Voices (NAL, paperback, $4.95).

The Book of American Negro Poetry. Edited by James W. Johnson. Harcourt, 1969, paperback $7.95.

Contains striking selections from the works of forty writers.

Caroling Dusk: An Anthology of Verse By Negro Poets. Edited by Countee Cullen. Irvington, 1955, text edition $26.00.

A thorough anthology of early Black poets through the Harlem Renaissance.

Dark Symphony: Negro Literature In America. Edited by James A. Emmanuel and Theodore L. Gross. Free Press, 1968, paperback text edition $17.95.

A scholarly anthology with extensive background information on authors and literary periods.

The Forerunners: Black Poets in America. Edited by Woodie King, Jr. Howard University Press, 1976. $8.95 (paperback, 1981, $6.95)

Contains the selected works of sixteen "poets who came to prominence, mainly after the Renaissance years, who bridged the gap between poets of the twenties and those of the sixties and seventies."

I am the Darker Brother: An Anthology of Modern Poems By Negro Americans. Edited by Arnold Adoff. Macmillan, 1968, $9.95 (paperback 1970, $3.95). A

An attractive, thematically arranged volume of poems ranging from the Harlem Renaissance to the early 1960's.

My Black Me: A Beginning Book Of Black Poetry. Edited by Arnold Adoff. Dutton, 1974, $8.50. A

Themes range from the death of Malcolm X to evocative pleas for Black pride, and style ranges from traditional to phonetically written street patois.

The New Black Poetry. Edited by Clarence Major. International Publishers, 1969, paperback $1.95.

The Poetry of Black America: An Anthology of the Twentieth Century. Edited by Arnold Adoff. Harper, 1973, $22.50. A

More than 600 poems by some 140 writers, from W.E.B. Du Bois to today's poets. Adoff has also edited two excellent anthologies that are now out of print: Celebrations: A New Anthology of Black American Poetry (1977) and Black Out Loud: An Anthology of Modern Poems by Black Americans (1970).

The Poetry of the Negro, 1746 - 1970: An Anthology. Edited by Langston Hughes and Arna Bontemps. Revised and updated. Doubleday, 1970, $15.95.

A definitive anthology with a few works by each poet.

POETRY COLLECTIONS FROM OTHER LANGUAGES OR COUNTRIES

This represents a small sample of the poetry that is written by primarily African, Oriental, and Spanish-speaking poets. They have all been translated into English and some titles are bilingual editions.

African Poetry. Edited by Ulli Beier. Cambridge University Press, 1966, paperback $5.95.

A fascinating collection of traditional African poems and songs, one of the best sources of the literature before European influences.

African Voices: An Anthology of Native African Writings. Edited by Peggy Rutherford. Vanguard, 1959, $9.95.

An Anthology of Modern Arabic Poetry. Edited by Mounah A. Khouri and Hamid Algar. University of California Press, 1974, paperback $3.95.

An Anthology of Swahili Poetry. Edited by Ali Jahadhmy. Heinemann, 1977, paperback text edition $4.50.

Borzoi Book of Latin American Literature. 1977, 2 volumes; Volume 1 - paperback $9.95; volume 2 - paperback $7.95.

An Introduction to Haiku: An Anthology of Poems and Poets From Basho to Shiki. Translated by Harold G. Henderson. Doubleday, 1983, paperback $4.95.

One Hundred Poems From the Chinese. Translated by Kenneth Rexroth. New Directions, 1956, $11.95 (paperback $4.95).

Also, One Hundred more poems from the Chinese: Love and the Turning Year. New Directions, 1970 (paperback $4.95).

One Hundred Poems From the Japanese. Translated by Kenneth Rexroth. New Directions, 1955, $11.95 (paperback $4.95).

Also, One Hundred More Poems From the Japanese. New Directions, 1976 $8.25 (paperback $4.50)

Penguin Book of Japanese Verse. Penguin, 1982, paperback $5.95.

Penguin Book of Zen Poetry. Edited by Lucien Stryk and Takashi Ikemoto. Swallow, 1978, $18.95 (paperback Penguin, 1981, $4.95).

Poems From Black Africa. Edited by Langston Hughes. Indiana University Press, 1963, $6.50.

This collection contains traditional poetry, African poetry in English, and translations of modern non-English poetry.

Poems of Black Africa. Edited by Wole Soyinka. Hill and Wang, $12.95 (paperback $4.95).

Recent Poetry of Spain: A Bilingual Anthology. Edited by Louis Hammer and Sara Schyfter. Sachem Press (Post Office Box 9, Old Chatham, NY 12136), 1983, $24. (paperback $11.95).

A very astutely selected group of poems that demonstrates the great variety of currents and undercurrents in Spanish verse.

Roots and Wings: Poetry From Spain, 1900-1975. Edited by Hardie St. Martin, 1976, $19.18 (paperback, Harper, $10.95.)

A bilingual edition of modern Spanish poetry.

INDIVIDUAL CONTEMPORARY POETS

These are some popular poets that are listed with at least one of their works. Select the ones that reflect your library's needs and add others.

Angelou, Maya

(A distinguished Black artist who writes poems of love, insight, tension and the Black condition. See also Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water 'Fore I Diie (C) and Oh Pray My Wings Are Gonna Fit Me Well.)

And Still I Rise. Random, 1978, $7.95. (B)

Atwood, Margaret

(This best-selling author is a spokeswoman for both Canadian literature and feminist concerns.)

True Stories. Simon, 1982, $13.50 (paperback $4.95).

Baraka, Amiri (LeRoi Jones)

("Baraka is the leading revolutionary poet in America. Change is his consistent belief, progress his preoccupation." Black Magic, It's Nation Time and Hard Facts are three of his many collections.)

Selected Poetry of Amiri Baraka - LeRoi Jones. Morrow, 1979, $12.95 (paperback $5.95).

Berrigan, Daniel

(Berrigan, the noted pacifist, writes political poetry that stirs the soul. Night Flight to Hanoi expresses his feelings about the Vietnam war.)

Prison Poems. Unicorn Press, 1982 (paperback $6).

Bradbury, Ray

(Known best as a science fiction writer - The Martian Chronicles and Fahrenheit 451 - Bradbury is also a poet.)

The Complete Poems of Ray Bradbury. Ballantine, 1982 (paperback $2.95).

Brautigan, Richard

("Brautigan's work, characterized by spare form and cool reserve, is extremely popular on American college campuses, and he rates with Hesse and Tolkien as an underground literary favorite.")

The Pill Versus the Springhill Mine Disaster (Poems 1957-1968). Dell, 1973, paperback $1.95.

Brooks, Gwendolyn

(Pulitzer prize winner Brooks is best known for her poetry of the Black ghetto experience found in A Street in Bronzeville and In The Mecca.)

The World of Gwendolyn Brooks. Harper, 1971, $15.

Cullen, Countee

(Cullen's poems are "marked by deep feeling, singing rhythm, and sensitive awareness of both beauty and evil." The Black poet died in 1946.)

On These I Stand. Harper, 1947, $10.95.

Cummings, E.E.

("A poet who improves with judicious selecting, Cummings remains a powerful magic-maker, a celebrant of life." See also 95 Poems [D]).

Complete Poems, 1913-1962. Harcourt, 1972, $19.95 (paperback, 1980, $9.95).

Dickey, James

(Dickey is probably best known for his novel, Deliverence, yet is also an acclaimed Southern poet.)

Poems, 1957-1967, Macmillan, 1968 (paperback $3.95).

Dunbar, Paul Lawrence

("Dunbar was the first American Negro of pure African blood to feel the Negro life esthetically and express it lyrically.") See also I Greet the Dawn.)

The Complete Poems of Paul Lawrence Dunbar. Dodd, 1980 (paperback $4.95).

Ferlinghetti, Lawrence

(Ferlinghetti is an ageless radical of the beatnik generation. He writes about the planned, strait-jacketed life and the shoddiness of our culture - with a view toward how it could be better. See also Landscapes of Living and Dying.)

A Coney Island of the Mind: Poems. New Directions, 1968, $9.95 (paperback $2.95).

Forche, Carolyn

(Forche is one of the few contemporary, best-selling poets. Also see Gathering the Tribes and Undisclosed, No. 24.)

The Country Between Us. Harper, 1982, $11.06 (paperback $5.72).

Frost, Robert

("The qualities of plain speech and human simplicity create a spell that marks him as one of our enduring poets.") See Selected Poems of Robert Frost (D) and In the Clearing [B].)

An Anthology of Robert Frost: Poems. Edited by Louis Untermeyer. 1982, (paperback $3.95).

Gibran, Kahlil

(Gibran is the mystical writer/artist who was born in Lebannon and died in America. Best known for The Prophet, he has written many other books of lyric poetry.)

A Treasury of Kahlil Gibran. Edited by Martin L. Wolf. Citadel, 1974 (paperback $5.95.)

Ginsberg, Allen

(Ginsberg was the leading poet of the "beat generation." He writes a loosely structured, prophetic sounding line. Howl, and Other Poems is probably his best known book.)

The Fall of America: Poems of these States, 1965-1971. City Lights Books, 1972, (paperback $4.00).

Giovanni, Nikki

(Giovanni is a Black woman - but first a woman. She is always searchingly honest in her description of human concerns. See also My House: Poems and The Women and the Men.)

Cotton Candy on a Rainy Day: Poems. Morrow, 1978 (paperback $4.50.)

Hughes, Langston

(Hughes writes "some of the saddest, most humorous and beautiful insights ever given into the heart of a race." This Black poet died in 1967.)

Selected Poems of Langston Hughes. Knopf, 1959, $12.95 (paperback), (C) Random, $4.95.)

Johnson, James Weldon

(Johnson wrote these seven poems from memories of sermons by Black preachers heard in his childhood.)

God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse. Viking, 1927, $9.95 (paperback, Penguin, 1976, $3.95.)

Jong, Erica

(Jong's poetry is often concerned with women and women's sexuality - as in Loveroot. She is more popularly known for her novels, Fear of Flying and How to Save Your Own Life.)

The Poetry of Erica Jong. Holt, 1976 (paperback $11.95).

Kavanaugh, James

(Kavanaugh's poems move from social-religious absurdities to the passions of love and life.)

There are Men Too Gentle to Live Among Wolves. Dutton, 1970, $7.95.

Lowell, Robert

(Lowell shows that a fine poet can concern himself actively with the quality of American life and social activism.)

Selected Poems. Revised Edition. Farrar, 1976, $17.50 (paperback $10.50).

Masters, Edgar Lee

(Masters created Spoon River, a village community in the Middle West, and described in microbiographies the lives of its citizens.)

Spoon River Anthology. Macmillan, 1963, $12.95 (paperback, 1962 $3.50). (C,D,B)

McKuen, Rod

(McKuen is famous for the lightweight romantic poetry that keeps his name at the top of the best-selling poetry lists.)

Celebrations of the Heart. Simon & Schuster, 1978, $8.95.

Nash, Ogden

(Nash's "versus" are written in outrageous rhyming schemes, satirizing the life of our times.)

I Wouldn't Have Missed It: Selected Poems of Ogden Nash. Little, 1975, $14.45.

Nye, Naomi Shihab

(Nye writes with an emphasis on Hispanic culture. See also Different Ways to Pray.)

Hugging the Jukebox. Dutton, 1982, $12.50 (paperback $5.95).

Piercy, Marge

(Piercy is a noted feminist with a gift for precise description, unusual analogy, and intriguing narrative. See also The Moon is Always Female.)

Circles on the Water: Selected Poems of Marge Piercy. Knopf, 1982, $17.50 (paperback $8.95).

Plath, Sylvia

(Plath died in 1963 at the age of 30. She left a legacy of remarkable poems - included in Ariel and Winter Trees - and a moving novel, The Bell Jar.)

The Collected Poems. Edited by Ted Hughes. Harper, 1981, $16.83 (paperback $7.64).

Rich, Adrienne

("Feminist poet Rich writes of the rage and cries out against the desperate plight of women." Necessities of Life: Poems 1962-1965 and Diving Into the Wreck: Poems 1971-1972 are two of her many collections.)

Poems: Selected and New, 1950-1974. Norton 1975, $12.95 (paperback $5.95).

Rukeyser, Muriel

("Rukeyser is recognized primarily as a poet of social protest - for all minority groups, the dangers of capitalistic society, the terrors of war and jail, and of the battered child or woman.")

The Collected Poems of Muriel Rukeyser. McGraw, 1982 (paperback $9.95).

Sandburg, Carl

("Sandburg is known for his free verse, written under the influence of Walt Whitman, and celebrating industrial and agricultural America and the American common people." See Rainbows are Made, a beautifully illustrated sample of his work.)

The Complete Poems of Carl Sandburg. Revised Edition. Harcourt, 1970, $19.95.

Sarton, May

(Sarton writes of the joys and anguishes of love and the dedication necessary to generate art from everyday life. See also A Private Mythology.)

Selected Poems of May Sarton. Edited by Serena Sue Hilsinger. Norton, 1978, $12.95 (paperback $7.95).

Service, Robert

(Service's narrative verses "are characterized by a simple ballad meter, vigorous love of adventure, and heroic emotions and primal instincts.")

The Best of Robert Service. Dodd, 1953 (paperback $3.95).

Sexton, Anne

("Sexton delineated the problematic position of women - the neurotic reality of the time" and in doing so earned her place in the canon. She died in 1974.)

The Complete Poems. Houghton, 1982, $20 (paperback $10.50).

Shange, Ntozake

(Shange is probably best known for her play, For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf.)

A Daughter's Geography. St. Martins Press, 1983, $9.95.

Silverstein, Shel

(Silverstein's humorous poems are wonderful to read aloud to folks of all ages. Also see A Light in the Attic. [A])

Where the Sidewalk Ends: Poems and Drawings. Harper, 1974, $12.45. (A)

Stafford, William

(Stafford has a way of transforming the general to the unique. "His poetic is that everything matters, everything is delicately threaded together.")

A Glass Face in the Rain. Harper, 1982, $12.45 (paperback $6.68).

Thomas, Dylan

(Welsh poet Thomas is known for his stirring and passionate verse and his obsession with death, religion, sex and the sound of words.)

Collected Poems. New Directions, 1971, paperback $5.95.

Warren, Robert Penn

(Many folks know Warren best through his novel All the King's Men, but this 79-year-old writer is one of the living poets comparable to Robert Frost.)

Being Here: Poetry 1977-1980. Random, 1980, $10.95

Williams, Sherley Anne

(Williams writes with empathy for her Black sisters.)

Some One Sweet Angel Chile. Morrow, 1982, $11.50 (paperback $7.50).

Young, Al

(Young writes poems in relaxed jazz rhythms that reflect the influence of Black culture and popular speech. Also see his collection, The Song Turning Back Into Itself.)

The Blues Don't Change. Louisiana State University, 1982, $14.95 (paperback $7.95).

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